FY 1999 Resource Enhancements

Vermont

Enhancements in the Fiscal Year 1999 budget for the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) include the following increases in Vermont:

FY 1999 INS Enhancements in Vermont

Location	Current Staff	Increase	Total
Border Patrol Agents			
Swanton Border Patrol Sector*	69	8	77
Immigration Information Officers			
Vermont Service Center	72	33	105
TOTAL	141	41	182

^{*} The 8 new agents will be assigned to the Massena, New York station in the Swanton Sector.

Border Patrol Agents

The FY 1999 INS budget provides 1,000 Border Patrol agents who will deployed to strengthen Southwest border operations in the corridors experiencing the most illegal migrant traffic. In response to increased alien smuggling activity and illegal traffic, 22 Border Patrol agent positions, including eight for the Swanton Sector, will be deployed to the northern U.S. border.

Immigration Information Officers

The naturalization program received a major boost when Congress and President Clinton approved \$171 million for FY 1999 to reduce application backlogs and further support naturalization activities plus an additional \$5 million for records initiatives. The funding includes existing INS and Department of Justice funds and, for the first time, \$60 million in appropriated resources. It will provide for 200 new term Adjudicators, 100 Immigration Information Officers at the Service Centers to assist with application processing, a national telephone customer service center and the centralization of 25 million paper files that are currently housed in 80 offices nationwide.